GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3819
ANSWERED ON:17.04.2002
OPENING OF NEW P.O. IN NORTH-EAST REGION
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Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to open new post offices in tribal, remote and far-flung areas of Nort-East Region;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the effective measures being taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SIKDAR)

(a)&(b) Government propose to open new post offices in Tribal, remote and far-flung areas of North East region subject to fulfillment of norms for opening of new Post Offices and availability of requisite resources.

(c) Does not arise in view of (a) and (b) above.

(d) 10 per cent of the financial allocation for opening of new Post Offices under the 10th Five year Plan is being allocated to the North East Region.

ANNEXURE

NORMS FOR OPENING POST OFFICES

1. Norms for opening Extra Departmental Branch Post Offices:

1.1 Population:

(a) In Normal Areas:

3000 population in a group of villages (including the PPO village).

(b) In Hilly, Tribal, Desert and Inaccessible Areas:

500 population in an individual village or 1000 population in a group of villages.

1.2 Distance:

(a) In Normal Areas:

The minimum distance from the nearest existing post office will be 3 Kms.

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(b) In Hilly, Tribal, Desert and Inaccessible Areas:

The distance limit will be the same as above except that in Hilly Areas, the minimum distance limit can be relaxed by the Directorate in cases where such relaxation is warranted by special circumstances which should be clearly explained while submitting a proposal.

1.3 Anticipated income:

(a) In Normal Areas:
The minimum anticipated revenue will be 331/3% of the cost.

(b) In Hilly, Tribal, Desert and Inaccessible Areas:
The minimum anticipated income will be 15% of the cost .

2. Criteria for upgrading/opening Departmental Sub Post Offices:

(a) In Rural Areas:

The Minimum work load of the Extra Departmental Branch Post Office, proposed to be upgraded, should be five hours per day. The permissible limit of annual loss is Rs. 2400/- in Normal Rural areas and Rs. 4800/- in Tribal and Hilly areas.

(b) In Urban Areas:

In Urban areas, the post office should initially be self-supporting, and at the time of the first annual review, it should show a 5% profit to be eligible for further retention.

The minimum distance between two post offices should be 1.5 Kms.in cities with a population of 20 lakhs and above, and 2 Kms, in other Urban Areas. No two delivery offices, however, should be closer than 5 Kms. for each other. Heads of Circles have powers to relax the distance condition in 10% of the cases. A Delivery Post Office in Urban Area should have a minimum of 7 Postmen`s beats.